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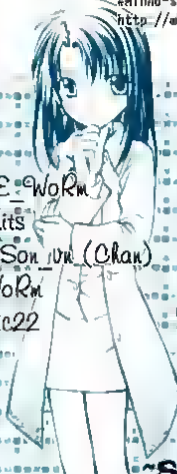

Translator: TRE_WoRm
Proofer: Shomits
Editor: HoangSon_VN (Chan)
QCer: TRE_WoRm
seraphic22

Gensokyo &
Minna-scan
present's

SPIRAL
~Sutra no Kizuna~

#Gensokyo is now in need Jap/Ch Translator. We also need experienced proofer/QC. If you're interested, please pm seraphic22 or email me.

HoangSon_VN (chan)
HuangsonVn@yahoo.com.vn

It's morning
before I realize it,
It's afternoon
before I realize it,
It's night
before I realize it;
Time passes so
quickly.

MIZUNO EITA

作 城平 京　画 水野英多

8

スパイラル
～推理の絆～

GANGAN COMICS

GC スパイラル 推理の絆 8

作 城平 京
画 水野英多

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ガンガンコミックス GC

08

エニックス

GC ガンガンコミックス 既刊好評発売中!!

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ファントム デッド オア アライブ	1～2
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フラッシュ!奇面組	1
ドームチルドレン	1
スターオーシャンブルースフィア	1
悪魔事典	1
PAPUWA	1
ながされて藍蘭島	1
1/Nのゆらぎ	
ハーメルンのバイオリン弾き	全37巻
ドラゴンクエスト幻の大地	全10巻
ジャックルはいつも ハレのちクウ	全10巻
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パンツァークライン	全5巻
清村くんと杉小路くんと	全4巻

●品切れの時は本屋さんにお支払して下さい

月刊ガンガンJOKER 毎月12日発売!!

日本一元気なエンターテインメントコミック!!

スパイラル 推理の絆 8

原作 城平 京
画 水野英多

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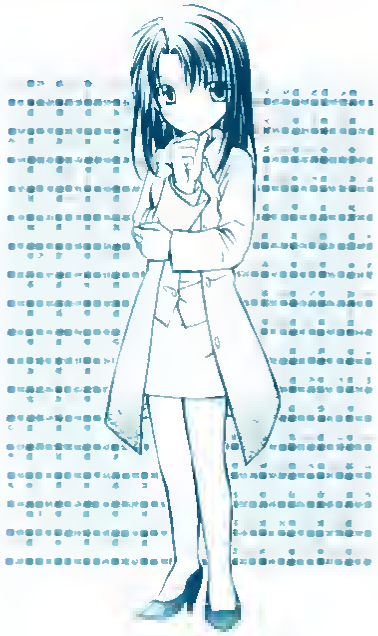

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スパイラル～推理の絆～ 8

作／城平京
画／水野英多

While the night
Is still young
SPIRAL makes
The world brand new

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CHAPTER 37· THE GAME OF THE RATS AND THE DRAGON
ダダダ
ダダダ
ダダダ
ダダダ
WAS THAT A GUN-SHOT?!
CAN'T YOU, THE POLICE, DO ANYTHING EVEN IF THE SITUATION IS LIKE THIS?!
VERH WELL, IT'S AN ORDER FROM ABOVE !!

CHAPTER 37: THE GAME OF THE RATS AND THE DRAGON

TSUKIOMI HIGH SCHOOL THE CORRIDOR
ON THE 3RD FLOOR OF BUILDING A
BASTARD!

SEEMS THAT IT EASILY PIERCED THROUGH 2 TO 3 BULLETPROOF VESTS AND FIRE DOORS!
WE'VE PREDICTED IT TO SOME LEVEL, BUT FOR HIM TO COME WITH THAT KIND OF A GUN.
AT THIS RATE, IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE HE GETS HIS WAY
WE CAN'T USE A DESK OR A DOOR AS A SHIELD
EVEN IF WE ARRANGE SOME OBSTACLES IN A STRAIGHT LINE, IT'LL PROBABLY BE OUT

...WE'LL APPROACH HIM AND SEAL HIS GUH,
AND WE'LL PRESS ON HIM ALL AT ONCE.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
ARE WE GONNA DO IT?
IT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS, BUT WE HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE.
... HUH

PIA
IT'S SAFER THAN STAYING LIKE THIS.
KOUSUKE!
YES...
HI
AND YOU, DON'T FIRE HORRIBLY.
YOU KNOW THE FORMATION, RIGHT?

ダッ
ダッ
ダッ
!

HERE WE GO!
HEY-
I'M GONNA SHOOT !!

ヒュン
ハッ
コロコロ
ヒュン

YES,
WEL-
COME!

A SUC-
CESSFUL
START!!
GOT
YOU!
THE
NEXT
IS
KANONE!

RYOU
-KO!!
...ASA-
DZUKI.

THAT'S A BAD HABIT.
YOU'RE TOO CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS.
YOUR INSTANT RESPONSE HAS BECOME DULL---

HOW ABOUT YOU COME OUT?
...RIO.
すたすた
チャ
...NO NEED TO HIDE.

YOUR OBJECTIVE WAS GOOD.
MAKING ME COME OUT OF THE CLASSROOM USING A GRENADE
AND SEALING MY GUN AT THE INTERSECTION.
IT'S CLEARLY DANGEROUS IF THE TIMING IS OFF,
BUT SINCE IT WAS RYOUKO, SHE HAD A HIGH CHANCE OF PULLING IT OFF
AND WHILE SHE SEALS MY GUN, ASADZUKI SHOOTS ME WITH A TRANQUILIZER GUN.

AND THEN RIO, YOU WENT OVER TO THE BALCONY SO YOU COULD GET INTO THE CLASSROOM THERE AND CATCH ME FROM BEHIND.
SO EVEN IF ADAPZUKI MISSED HIS SHOT,
YOU'D HAVE A SECOND CHANCE FROM BEHIND ME.
IT'S KIND OF INTENSE FOR YOU TO COME HELP ASAPZUKI AND RYOUKO AS THEY MOVE AROUND.
YEP,
BUT I REALLY WANTED SUCH A PLAN,
I TOOK SUCH A POWERFUL GUN THINK -ING THAT YOU'D COME.
IT WAS A GOOD PLAN. ♪
BECAUSE IT'S A BIG CHANCE FOR ME TO SHOOT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.
?

AND SINCE SHE DIDN'T EXPECT ME TO SWAP GUNS SO FAST, RYOUKO LOST HER POSITION
IN A MOMENT, I CHANGED MY GUN TO THIS,
... AND SO I HID THIS IN MY WRIST SO I COULD SKILFULLY PULL IT OUT WITH THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF POWER.
I CAN DO THAT WITH MY EYES SHUT.
SOMETHING LIKE FIRING A BUNCH OF BULLETS IN A ROW,
BUT BURSTING OUT OF THE BUILDING PUMPING ROUNDS IS QUITE A VIOLENT WAY OF DOING THINGS.
AND SO THE FIGHT HAD ALREADY BEEN DECIDED BEFORE YOU CAME IN AS BACKUP.
AFTER ASADZUKI SAW RYOUKO GETTING BEAT, HE'D DEFINITELY STOP FOR A MOMENT,

RIO.
.. WELL THEN.
THE ONLY ONE LEFT IS YOU.
DID YOU THINK YOU COULD COMPETE AGAINST ME WITH THAT PURE STRATE-GY?
AND ALSO, FOR YOU TO TRY CAPTURING ME WITHOUT KILLING ME...

... JUST AS EXPECTED FROM THE MAN WHO HOLDS THE TITLE OF "GUN WITH WINGS".
LOOK-ING AT IT THAT WAY,
YOU TOO ARE CALLED BY MANY NAMES, LIKE "THE WITCH OF DESTRUCTION" OR "FAIRY OF EXPLODING FLAMES"
THE BEST OF THEM IS FOR SURE...
"THE EXPLODING LOLITA".
I WAS NEVER CALLED THAT!
HUH ?
THAT WAS WHAT KIYOTAKA JOYFULLY CALLED YOU ON HIS OWN, ISN'T IT?

Hah
IF YOU'RE GONNA KILL ME, CAN YOU HURRY IT UP?
IT'LL ONLY TAKE YOU ONE SHOT.
HA HA
THAT WOULD BE A DIFFICULT SHOT.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE IN YOUR BODY YOU'RE HIDING EXPLOSIVES.
I'LL HAVE TO SHOOT YOU IN THE HEAD
IF I DON'T SHOOT WELL AND INSTEAD INDUCE AN EXPLOSION ----
I'LL PROBABLY GET BADLY INJURED MYSELF.

DO YOU THINK I'M THAT NAIVE?
...KA-NONE-KUN,
YOU THINK THAT I DIDN'T PREDICT THIS SITUATION?
...LOOK

I'VE PREPARED SOMETHING SIMILAR TO WHAT YOU DID
SO YOU THINK THAT WHILE READING YOU AND YOUR COUNTER-PLAN,
MY OWN PLAN WOULD FALL THAT QUICKLY?
WHAT IF...
IN THE MOMENT YOU RELEASED YOUR GUN, KANONE-KUN
DID YOU PREDICT THE POSSIBILITY THAT RYOUKO-CHAN HAD A TRANQUILIZER GUN HIDDEN IN HER HAND AND THAT SHE'D SHOOT YOU FROM THAT SHORT DISTANCE?
AFTER SHE DID THAT, DID YOU PREDICT THAT KOUSUKE-KUN AND I WOULD COME AT YOU FROM BOTH SIDES?
I SEE.
BUT YOU COULDN'T DO IT BECAUSE I TOOK DOWN RYOUKO TOO FAST?

YOU PROBABLY THINK HE JUST GAVE UP.
KOU-SUKE-KUN IS STUB-BORN
AT FIRST GLANCE IT SEEMS LIKE HE'D DIE, BUT FROM THE HEIGHT OF THE 3RD FLOOR, HE WON'T.
THAT'S RIGHT.
THAT'S WHY KOUSUKE-KUN WAS LATE BY A MOMENT.
BUT KAHOHE-KUN PULLED OUT A NEW GUN WITHOUT LEAVING ANY OPENINGS,
AND IT ENDED WITH HIM BEING THROWN OUT OF THE WINDOW
ALSO...
HE JUST TOOK THE BEST PLAN POSSIBLE FOR HIS SURVIVAL

SHE MIGHT BE WAITING FOR A CHANCE TO SHOOT YOU WITH THE TRANQUILIZER GUN, KANONE -KUN, SEE?
YOU REALLY BEAT RYOUKO-CHAN THERE,
BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT SHE WAS WEARING A BULLET-PROOF VEST WITH BLOOD INSERTED IN IT,
SO SHE MIGHT NOT BE DEAD YET, SEE?
...KA-NONE-KUN,
YOU MISSED TWICE.
THE FIRST TIME WAS ---
YOU DIDN'T SHOOT RYOUKO-CHAN IN THE HEAD AFTER KNOCK-ING HER OUT TO CONFIRM HER DEATH.

THE SECOND ---
YOU'RE STILL HOLDING THAT BIG GUN OF YOURS.
IN A SITUATION WHERE YOU'RE AIMED AT FROM TWO SIDES,
YOU'LL BE AT A DISADVANTAGE IF BOTH SIDES SHOOT AT YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE HOLDING SUCH A HEAVY GUN
THERE IS A HIGH CHANCE THAT YOU'LL BE HIT BY ONE OF THEM.

ISN'T IT WEIRD TO TELL ME THEM IN AD-VANCE?
IF YOU DIDN'T TELL ME, YOU COULD'VE LAUNCHED A SURPRISE ATTACK.

WHAT'S MORE, IF RYOUKO HAD A BULLET-PROOF VEST, ASADZUKI SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN DELAYED

...I'LL ACKNOWL-EDGE THOSE MISSES.

...AGAINST YOUR REFLEXES, THE EFFECT OF A SUR-PRISE ATTACK IS WEAK.

WHAT YOU ARE SAYING SOUNDS LIKE A BLUFF THAT IS ONLY SUP-POSED TO DIVERT MY ATTENTION TO OTHER THINGS.

--HOW ABOUT THIS?
A TERRIBLE EXCUSE.
ALSO, I FORGOT TO TELL KOUSUKE-KUN ABOUT THE BULLETPROOF VEST.
IT TAKES TIME TO RECOVER.
EVEN IF RYOUKO-CHAN IS WEARING A BULLETPROOF VEST,
IF YOU SHOOT 6 BULLETS AT HER, THE DAMAGE WOULD BE SO GREAT THAT SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE FOR A WHILE.
TO GAIN THAT TIME.
SO THIS CONVERSATION IS

...BUT THIS
MIGHT BE A BIG LIE TO DIVERT YOUR ATTENTION.
WELL
WHICH IS IT, NYA?

——Even if you say I had som.. flack...
As I thought, Rio——
HAS CUT THROUGH THEM ALL!!
...I GUESS IT'S FINE.

NO MATTER WHICH ONE IT IS,
I JUST NEED TO OUTDO IT...

This situation---
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW I'LL BEAT IT!!

すりる
だら!
Kuh

Hm
たん
Ryouko wore a bulletproof vest
So Rio shouldn't be finished off by now...
Ryou-ko!
Rio!!

KOU-SUKE..
I'M GLAD
YOU'RE ALIVE..
MORON! STOP WORRYING ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE.
MY HEART PROBABLY JUMPED WHEN I SAW YOU TAKE THE HIT TO YOUR CHEST.
YES...
I COULD HAVE HIT HIM BACK IF IT WAS 1 OR 2 SHOTS,
BUT HE SHOT ME 6 TIMES IN A ROW NEAR THE HEART.
I LOST CON-SCIOUS-NESS
THAT KANOUE BAS-TARD!
WHAT FOUL PLAY, TO SHOOT THERE SO SHARPLY WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A GLANCE MY WAY
Haa
TOO BAD.

WELL...
I GOT BACK TO MY SENSES BECAUSE OF THE PAIN,
AND SO I COULD TAKE PART IN THE LAST PART OF RIO'S ATTACK, WHICH LOOK -ED LIKE A GAMBLE.
TWO BULLETS GOT IN.
IT FELT LIKE 2 OR 3 RIBS BROKE.
...SO
WHAT HAPPENED TO KA-NONE?
...SOMEHOW WITH THE ATTACK FROM BOTH SIDES, HE GOT HIT WITH A TRANQUILIZER IN HIS LEFT ARM,
BUT IN THE END... HE GOT AWAY.

...RIO
BUT AT LEAST HE SHOULDN'T SHOW UP BEFORE THAT COMES TO PASS.
Fuh
WE CAN HAVE A BREAK FOR A WHILE ..
HE'LL PROBABLY GIVE HIMSELF TREATMENT TO TAKE CARE OF THE TRANQUILIZER QUICKLY,
SO EVEN IF IT DID AFFECT HIM, I THINK HE'D ONLY FALTER A LITTLE...
ARE YOU OKAY?
HEHE
I GOT HIT BY HIS GUN AS HE RAN AWAY...
MY LEFT COLLAR-BONE HURTS.

AND WHAT ABOUT YOU, KOUSUKE-KUN?
MY LEFT HAND IS BROKEN
AND MY LEFT LEG IS SHAKY TOO
YOU FELL FROM THE 3RD FLOOR, RIGHT?
AND, WELL ...
MY WHOLE BODY HURTS, I CAN'T BEAR IT ANY LONGER
...I HEARD FROM RIO,
ALTHOUGH I WAS SHOT, YOU WERE LATE AND FELL FROM THE WINDOW?

ARE YOU A MO-RON?!
YOU KNEW I WAS WEARING A BULLET-PROOF VEST.
ME BEING SHOT WAS PART OF THE CALCULA-TIONS!
BUT YOU LOSING YOUR SENSES AND GETTING BEAT WASN'T EXPECTED.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH THE BUL-LETPROOF VEST IS FILLED WITH BLOOD,
IF I ACTED CALMLY ABOUT IT, HE WOULD'VE SUSPECTED THAT YOU WERE ALRIGHT
HE WOULD'VE USED YOU AS A SHIELD TO PUT AN END TO THIS WITHOUT A SECOND'S DELAY
BUT BY GETTING DONE IN, I MADE KANONE LET HIS GUARD DOWN

WITH THAT, THE LAST, SIMULTANE-OUS ATTACK WAS A SUCCESS

...IT'S JUST LIKE KOUSUKE-KUN SAID

YOU SHOULD HAVE ABAN-DONED ME AND ATTACK -ED LIKE YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO...!

BUT THAT WAS MERELY A GAMBLE!

IF I COULDN'T GET BACK TO MY SENSES, IT WOULD'VE BEEN AN OUT!

ダメ…
… DAMN …
THERE IS NO WAY I COULD ABANDON YOU.
……

They probably can't fight.
As for the next one---
Even though everyone is alive, they're seriously injured...
And thinking about it again, he didn't kill Eyes...
He didn't aim for us after such a simple miss,
But Kanone-san has openings too.
He lingers when he's about to kill his friends...
For sure, unconsciously---

...So...
So...
IT'S FINE ...
WE CAN STILL DO IT.

It's fine—
I definitely can kill my friends...

CHAPTER 38:
THE SCANNER
OF DARKNESS

I FEEL A LITTLE WOOZY...
I TREATED IT IMMEDIATELY, BUT...
THERE IS A LITTLE OF THE TRANQUILIZER'S EFFECT LEFT...
ALTHOUGH IT WILL PROBABLY DISAPPEAR COMPLETELY WITHIN 30 MINUTES...

Staying away from combat for over a year...
IT'S NOT LIKE ME TO KEEP ON MISSING...
DIDN'T PREPARE ENOUGH FOR THIS, HUH...
..I'LL DO IT.

I'LL KILL MY FRIENDS WITH THESE HANDS OF MINE.
Music Room
Clack
AH
WELCOME BACK.

...WHAT HAP-PENED?
YOUR FACE LOOKS TROU-BLED...
IS THAT SO...
RIO AND THE REST ARE QUITE TOUGH.
REGRETTABLY, WITH ONE MORE STEP I WOULD'VE INJURED THEM TO THEIR DEATHS.

THAT'S A SHAME
.. ARE YOU FIRM IN YOUR RESOLUTION?
IS IT OKAY TO GIVE IT UP...?
ISN'T IT SOMETHING I JUST NEED TO STRUGGLE A LITTLE WITH?
YOU'LL ONLY TIRE FROM WALKING AROUND LIKE THAT, NOT BEING ABLE TO SETTLE DOWN.
And your shoulder hurts too.

BUT ISN'T IT AT A TIME LIKE THIS WHEN THE HERO ESCAPES WITH HIS OWN POWERS?
BY OPENING THE HANDCUFFS WITH A SAFETY PIN...
OR SHAKING OFF THE RESTRAINTS BY POPPING HIS JOINTS.
OR LETTING OUT BEAMS FROM HIS EYES.
AS IF YOU HAVE THOSE SPECIAL ABILITIES AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.
And what's up with the eye beams anyway?
Hm—?
YOU'RE REALLY BORING.
THAT'S BECAUSE I'M A PERSON WHO IS BEING PLAYED BY ANIKI NO MATTER WHAT I DO
THE SAME AS YOU...

YOU'LL KNOW ONCE THIS CARNIVAL IS OVER, RIGHT?
I DON'T FEEL LIKE HAVING THIS POINTLESS ARGUMENT
YOU ARE STILL
SAYING THAT EVERY-ONE IS IN KIYOTAKA'S HANDS
カリカリ

EVEN THOUGH I DID IT SO FLASHILY, THE POLICE HAVEN'T MOVED.
THE WATCHERS ARE REALLY RESTRAINING THEM, HUH?
IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S TIME TO NEGOTIATE WITH THEM...

HUH?
...YOU DIDN'T ASK ANY-- THING?
.....

ABOUT KIYOTAKA OR THE BLADE CHILDREN.
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BOMBARD ME WITH A BARRAGE OF QUESTIONS UNTIL WE GOT TO THE CAMPUS?
AL-THOUGH I WANT TO ASK ABOUT IT...
CAN YOU REALLY ANSWER ---
ALL OF MY QUESTIONS UNTIL WE GET TO THE CAMPUS?
I GUESS THIS IS IMPOSSI-BLE...
SEEMS LIKE IT.

IF I HEAR JUST A BIT OF IT, I'LL GET ALL NEEDLESSLY STRESSED.
IT'S OKAY IF YOU TELL ME IT ALL AFTER THE THING WITH THAT KANONE KID HAS BEEN SETTLED.
...BUT
...
CAN I ASK ONE QUESTION NOW?
WHAT IS IT?
...IS KIYO-TAKA-SAN...

IS "NARUMI KIYOTAKA" JUST?
--NO,
...IN THE END,
THE PLACE HE'LL BE STANDING IN WILL BE JUST.

BUT ON THE ROAD THERE,
HE IS SUPPOSED TO BUILD A MOUNTAIN OF THE TRAGIC SCAPEGOATS THAT HE BEAT
TO MANY UNRELATED PEOPLE, HE'S JUST WITH NO CLOUDI-NESS,
BUT I WONDER HOW HE'D LOOK IN THE EYES OF THE VICTIMS..
SUCH IS...
THE JUSTICE OF GOD.

ANYWAY, IT LOOKS LIKE—
...I SEE.
I'M NOTHING MORE THAN A SCAPEGOAT FOR THAT PERSON.
THAT'S RIGHT.
IF YOU KEEP THAT THOUGHT IN MIND,
IT WILL END WITH YOU BARELY HURT.

...HE HE
I'M REALLY SORRY ...
AH!
HMM
KEEP YOUR EYES TO THE FRONT.
YOU ARE BOTH ALIKE.
YOU AND AYUMU...

YOU'RE ALIKE
ARE YOU YOURSELF AWARE OF THAT?
.....
ALTHOUGH YOU'RE COLD, BLUNT AND UNFRIENDLY,
YOU'RE STRANGELY KIND
...CAN I ASK ONE MORE?

DOES AYUMU ...
DOES "NARUMI KIYOTAKA'S LITTLE BROTHER" HAVE SOME SPECIAL MEANING?
THE FACT THAT THAT KID IS GETTING INVOLVED
IT ISN'T A COIN-CIDENCE, RIGHT?
...THAT'S SOME...
NOTHING MORE THAN A POSSIBIL-ITY.

"LITTLE BROTHER" IS FALSELY SIMILAR TO GOD,
THEREFORE, HE HOLDS THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE'LL EXCEED GOD AND THE DEVIL.
...YES.
POSSIBILITY?

IF YOU HAVE DEMANDS, YOU CAN TAKE THEM TO THE POLICE--
I can't talk about it with the police.
You can't move after a little pressure has been put on you.
BUT...
EVEN IF YOU ASK ME TO FORWARD YOUR CALL, I DON'T KNOW WHO THESE "WATCHERS" ARE!
IT REALLY IS "BUT"...
HI, HI~!
KA NONE-KUN ♪

YOU ARE NOW TALKING TO AN AGENT OF THE "WATCHERS"---
ぱちくり
Huh?
Are you listening?
AH, YES...
I'M LISTENING, I'M LISTENING

THE OLD MEN WHO LIKE TO WATCH FROM ABOVE WON'T COME TO SUCH A PLACE.
THIS SCENE IS MAINLY YOUNG PEOPLE.
YOU'RE YOUNG FOR A "WATCHER".
I THOUGHT THAT AN OLD MAN WITH A SOUR LOOK ON HIS FACE WOULD ANSWER FOR SURE.
SHALL I INTRODUCE MYSELF?
I'M TSUCHIYA KIRIE.
I HAVE GOOD LOOKS AND BRAINS.
I'M A 27 YEARS OLD LADY.

...IF YOU HAVE GOOD BRAINS, YOU WILL UNDERSTAND MY DEMANDS.
YOU WANT US TO ASSEMBLE ALL THE BLADE CHILDREN OF THE SCHOOL IN ONE PLACE, RIGHT?
WHERE?
The third gymnasium.
OKAY,
BUT IT'LL TAKE ABOUT 2 HOURS
IS THAT FINE?
I ACCEPT THAT
CALL ME WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED ASSEMBLING THEM, OKAY?
Roger, roger.
AH
BUT...
UNTIL THAT TIME ARRIVES,
I WONDER, WILL YOU BE OKAY?

I STOLE NARUMI AYUMU-KUN'S FREE-DOM,
AND RIO AND THE OTHERS ARE SERI-OUSLY INJURED
THERE IS NO WAY I CAN LOSE.
SO IT'S FINE
OVER THE WEAVED FATE OF GOD AND THE DEVIL...
ANYWAY, WE'RE HERE TO ABIDE.
TO WATCH OVER

I WANT TO SPEAK WITH EYES.
...TRUTH IS, I HAVE ONE MORE DEMAND
OKAY, WHAT?

...THAT'S SIMPLE...
It's okay to do it by phone so I want you to connect me to him.
I DIDN'T MAKE HIM DO IT.
HE CHOSE TO COME HERE ON HIS OWN WITH KIYOTAKA-SAN'S WIFE IN HER CAR.
Because Ruth-kun is already headed this way.
Did that surprise you?

Well then,
Talk to you later.
IT CAN'T ALWAYS FOLLOW YOUR SCENARIO.
.....
It seems his forecast went out of order...
Anyway,

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
WHO ARE THESE "WATCHERS"---
AH-- NO QUESTIONS
DIDN'T YOU RECEIVE AN ORDER FROM ABOVE?
Po Po
Po
R...
EVEN IF I EXPLAIN, YOU WON'T UNDERSTAND
Bip
HELLO, THIS IS KIRIE.

THE SITUATION IS APPROXIMATELY FOLLOWING KIYOTAKA'S SCENARIO--
THERE IS NO WAY GOD CAN BE WRONG.
.. YES,
ARRANGE FOR THE KIDS TO BE ASSEMBLED AT ONCE
HE'LL PROBABLY BE KICKED OUT BY THEN,
BUT IT'S JUST TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE
YES
YES.
THEN I'LL LEAVE THAT TO YOU
DON'T STARE AT ME.

I MYSELF AM JUST A MES-SENGER.
I JUST PLAY ACCORDING TO GOD'S ORDERS.
ISN'T EVERYONE JUST PLAYING TO HIS HANDS SO STU-PIDLY?
Because if you're inside God's hands,
Even if you're worried, it won't change a thing...

HEY, RIO...
DON'T ASK SUCH BULL!
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY ANALGE-SIC?
I DIDN'T HAVE TIME, SO I COULDN'T PREPARE ANY MEDICINE...

IT'S WRONG TO EXPECT SO MUCH OF THE DESTRUCTION SPECIALIST RIO.
KUU
MORE IMPORTANTLY, ARE WE GONNA SIT HERE FOREVER?
AREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO ATTACK KANONE, WHO WILL BE FEELING FAINT FROM THE TRANQUILIZER?
...WE'RE RESTING NOW.
IN THIS SITUATION, WE CAN'T EVEN WIN AGAINST A GIDDY KANONE-KUN.

REST ASSURED AND SLEEP A LITTLE.
KANONE-KUN IS KANONE-KUN, SO HE'LL WAIT UNTIL HIS BLOOD IS CLEAR OF THE TRANQUILIZER.
STOP SHOUTING
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT, WE HAVE LESS OF A CHANCE AGAINST KANONE WHEN HE ISN'T FEELING DIZZY AT ALL!!
NO MATTER WHAT, WE CAN'T BEAT KANONE USING HONEST MOVES.
ALL THREE OF US HAVE BROKEN BONES - WHAT MOVES DO WE HAVE LIKE THIS?
HAUU ~~
RIO IS DISCRETELY THINKING ABOUT A STRATEGY THAT WILL WORK BETTER.

Smile
THAT'S RIGHT—
THIS IS THE SECRET WEA-PON!
A NEKO EARS HEADBAND AND PAW GLOVES!!
USING THIS, EVERYONE CAN TURN INTO A CAT!!
IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR KANONE, A CAT LOVER, TO SHOOT US IF WE TURN INTO CATS!!

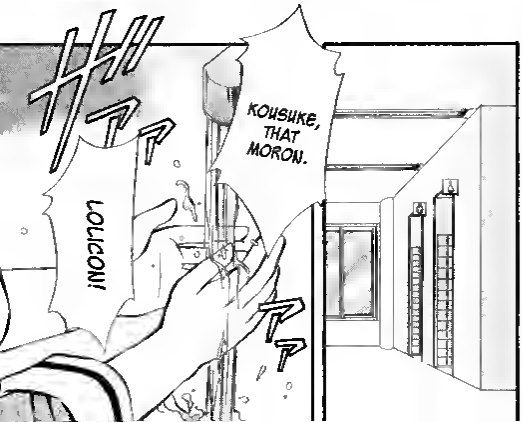
ビク!!!
HAU U~
DON'T PREPARE THOSE USELESS THINGS AND FORGET TO PREPARE MEDICINE AT THE SAME TIME---!!!
WITH THAT, HIS DEMISE IS COMF ---
DON'T GET SO UPSET ---
IT WAS JUST A JOKE TO CALM US DOWN
FIRST, IF YOU PUT ON THOSE GLOVES, YOU CAN'T HOLD A GUN!!
BUT IT WORTH BEING CHECKED ---
IT'S NOT!
ビク
I'VE HAD ENOUGH !!
HOW CAN WE CALM DOWN AT A TIME LIKE THIS!!

I'M GOING TO THE TOILET.
SHE'S AS VIOLENT AS EVER, KOUSUKE-KUN
UWAH!
IN THE PAST, SHE CAME AND DEPENDED ON ME TO PAT HER LIKE A "BIG BROTHER"
I CAN'T REALLY PICTURE IT.
BECAUSE IT WAS TOO DEPRESSING, I TOLD HER TO STOP WITH THE "BIG BROTHER" THING

BUT RYOUKO-CHAN IS YOUR LITTLE SISTER, KOUSUKE-KUN.
STOP THAT.
IF YOU SAY IT LIKE THAT, YOU'RE MY LITTLE SISTER TOO.
.....
THAT'D BE A DIS-TASTEFUL BLOOD CONNEC-TION
THAT'S TRUE
. HEY.

HOW DOES IT WORK IN PRACTICE?
HOLDING A GUN,
BECOMING SO WORN-OUT,
IS THERE SOMETHING WE CAN CHANGE?
WHAT CAN WE CHANGE ABOUT THAT?
AREN'T WE JUST
DOLLS FOR KIYOTAKA TO MANIPU-LATE?

SORRY
.....
I GUESS I'M REALLY TIRED...
I'VE ASKED SOME STUPID THINGS...


KOUSUKE, THAT MORON.
LOLICON!

HE JUST TAKES RIO'S SIDE.
WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT THAT EXPLOSION GIRL?!
I HAVE BETTER STYLE,
AND WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR A LONG TIME!
I ALWAYS KNEW ANY-THING ABOUT KOUSUKE....
AH!
...AM I A MORON...
WHAT AM I SAYING THIS LATE.

HYA
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE HIT PRETTY BADLY.
WAA!
PLEASE DON'T SHOOT ME!!
IT'S ME!!
ME!

.....
YOU,
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
THAT DOESN'T MATTER, RIGHT?
チッ
HEY,
MORE IMPORTANTLY, PLEASE LEAD ME TO WHERE EVERYONE IS
BECAUSE I'VE ARRANGED FOR SOME MEDICAL PACKS TOO
OKAY?
You...
Wai...

DON'T STICK IN YOUR NOSE. YOU'RE NOT RELATED TO THIS.
THIS IS THE BLADE CHILDREN'S PROBLEM.
THAT WAY, EVERY-ONE
WILL JUST PLAY TO GOD'S HANDS AND IT'LL END LIKE THAT.
BUT...
IT'S NOT OVER YET.

I HAVE SOME JUICY INFORMATION.

スパイラル～推理の絆～

CHAPTER 39:
BROTHERS

CURRENTLY, NARUMI-SAN IS BEING HELD CAPTIVE IN THE 6TH MUSIC ROOM ON THE 5TH FLOOR OF BUILDING C
AND KANONE-SAN IS PROBABLY THERE TOO...
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
...JOU-CHAN...

!?
FU FU FU...
I KNOW IT BECAUSE I PUT A TRANSMITTER ON NARUMI-SAN---
NO.
ごぼごぼん
IT'S THE INSTINCT OF A MAIDEN IN LOVE
A.. ANY-WAY.

IF WE KNOW THE CURRENT LOCATION OF KANONE-KUN AND OTOUTO-SAN, A LOT OF MOVES WILL OPEN FOR US.
YES...
AND ALSO, EARLIER THERE WAS A WOMAN IN FRONT SAYING SHE REPRESENTS THE "WATCHERS", AND SHE WAS DISCUSSING SOMETHING WITH KANONE-SAN
WELL, I OVER-HEARD IT WHILE I WAS THERE..
IT ALSO SEEMS LIKE NARUMI-SAN'S SISTER-IN-LAW AND RUTHERFORD ARE HEADING THIS WAY TOGETHER.
I THINK THAT THEY'LL GET HERE IN 20-30 MINUTES .
RUTHER-FORD, YOU SAY?!
AND TOGETHER WITH NARUMI-OTOUTO'S SISTER-IN-LAW?!

THE SITUATION IS CHANGING RAPIDLY
BUT... IT SEEMS THAT THE SITUATION IS GOING JUST LIKE THAT NARUMI KIYO -TAKA GUY PREDICTED
Other Watchers... Guardian Saint 50
YOU ARE FREE TO DO AS YOU LIKE WITH THAT INFORMATION, BUT...
TRY DOING WELL AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, PLEASE?

GET INVOLVED IN SOME UNCIVILIZED GUN FIGHTS.
WELL,
I DON'T WANT TO
...PLE~
PLEASE WAIT A SEC!!

...WHY
ARE YOU HERE?
THIS FIGHT SURROUNDS THE NIGHTMARISH FATE WE HAVE...
IF YOU STICK YOUR NOSE INTO IT CARELESSLY AND JUST FOR FUN,
YOU CAN LOSE YOUR LIFE, YOU KNOW?

. HE ANGERS ME A LITTLE.
THE GUY THAT MAKES EVERYONE PLAY TO HIS WILL USING GOD'S AFFECTION.
THAT'S WHY I, SOMEONE UNRELATED AND DOING IT FOR FUN,
AM THINKING ABOUT BENDING THAT SCE-NARIO.

...IF YOU FIGHT WHILE BEING PLAYED BY SOMEDNE,
YOU CAN'T GAIN ANY-THING.
にっ

We now have Kanone's location.
It's a chance for a surprise attack!
We can't.
It's no time to be absent-minded.
That's right, Rio.
Ha

IT'S NOT TIME FOR US TO MOVE.
WHILE YOU SAY THAT, KANONE'S RECOVER-ING!
NO, THAT'S WRONG
IT'S OUR CHANCE TO WIN AGAINST HIM, WHILE HE'S A LITTLE WEAKER
IF WE ARE TO WIN--
IT'LL BE WHEN KANONE IS AT HIS BEST, AND FIGHT-ING AT HIS FULLEST...
IF WE ARE TO WIN.
IT'LL BE JUST WHEN KANONE-KUN IS ABLE TO THINK AND MOVE HIS BODY.
THAT'S RIGHT.

THAT'S WHY
WE'LL WAIT AND LET OUR BODIES REST.

4:40.
THEY SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED BY NOW, RIGHT?!
THEY'RE HERE.

RUTH-KUN.
...TSU-CHIYA KIRIE, HUH...
IF YOU BAS-TARDS ARE HERE,
IT MEANS IT'S GOING ACCORDING TO KIYO-TAKA'S PLANS...
THAT'S RIGHT,
BECAUSE THIS IS A SCENARIO WRITTEN BY A GOD.

KANONE-KUN WANTS TO TALK WITH YOU.
PLEASE ANSWER HIM.

I HEARD OF THE SITUATION UP UNTIL NOW FROM MY SUBORDINATE
WHO ARE YOU?
I'M ONE OF THOSE UNDER NARUMI KIYOTAKA'S AUTHORITY
NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS.

JUST
LIKE
YOU...
R
.....
.....
.....
.....

DON'T OPEN THE WINDOW.
IF WE DON'T VENTILATE THE AIR FROM TIME TO TIME, IT'LL BECOME STIFLING, RIGHT?
IT'S COLD.
ピロロロロ
ピロロロロ
Brr

YES, YES.
WHO IS IT?
THE MAN YOU FAILED TO KILL.
... EYES, HUH?
YOU DID WELL TO COME HERE RIGHT AFTER WAKING UP
IT'S SUDDEN, BUT I HAVE SOMETHING TO CONSULT WITH YOU
Is it okay?
YES, I'M LISTENING.

AS YOU SEE, THE POLICE ARE SURROUNDING THE PLACE.
EVEN IF THE COURSE OF EVENTS GO WELL AND I KILL ALL THE BLADE CHILDREN,
It will be difficult to run away.
I NEED YOUR COOPERATION IN MY ESCAPE.
If you give me a hand,
There will be very few hardships along the way.

YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE ME GET CAUGHT BY THE POLICE, RIGHT?
YOU'RE TELLING ME TO
REFORM AND GROUP WITH YOU?
Cor-rect.
IF IT'S POSSIBLE, I TOO---
DON'T WANT TO TRY KILLING YOU ONCE AGAIN.
...NO
IF I TRY KILLING YOU ONCE MORE,
I WON'T BE ABLE TO STAY SANE...

It's in order to use himself as an hostage to get Rutherford's cooperation---...
For him to do such a ridiculous thing...
BUT YOU PROBABLY KNOW THAT...
That's the only thing they both have...
...ISN'T IT FINE ALREADY ...

There is no hope for the Blade Children,
LET'S WALK TOGETHER LIKE IN THE OLD DAYS.
YOU DID YOUR BEST.
I FINALLY UNDER-STAND WHY YOU LEFT US...
.....
And the last hope
Is plotted to disap-pear soon, right?

KA-
NONE
...
YOU'VE MET WITH "HIZUMI", RIGHT?
...YES.
I'VE MET WITH HIM.

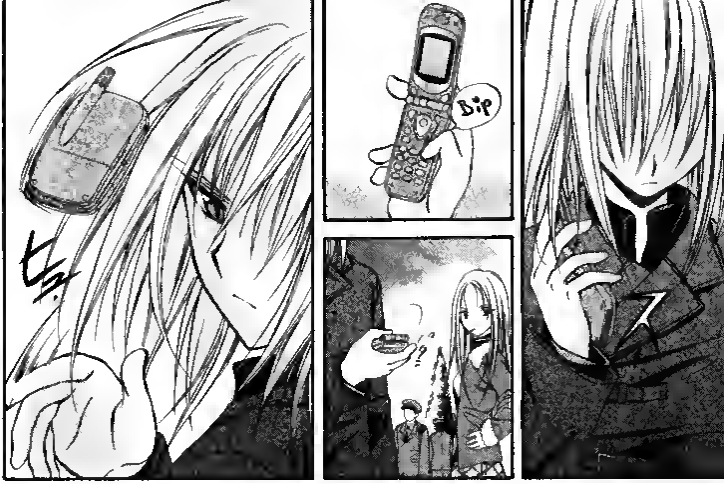
YOU KNEW HE EXISTED A LONG TIME AGO AND YOU HID IT FROM US.
I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS OF NOT WANTING TO TEACH US DESPAIR,
BUT IT HAS A HORRIBLE SIDE TO IT.
MAKING EVERYONE BELIEVE IN GOD'S BLESSING WHEN IT DOESN'T EVEN EXIST
IS A SIN BEYOND STUPIDITY ...

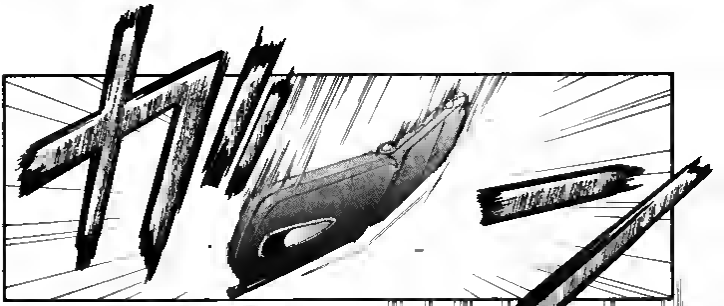
THERE IS NO BLESS-ING
HM
YOU CAN DECLARE IT QUITE EASILY.
I CAN SAY IT AS MUCH AS NEEDED.
THERE IS NO BLESS-ING,
IT DOESN'T EVEN EXIST.
Stop avoid-ing your self.
I GET IT.
I ACCEPT THE EXIS-TENCE OF DESPAIR.
...BUT
DESPITE THAT...

.....
I'LL KEEP WISHING FOR THIS BLESSING OF GOD IN SOLITUDE UNTIL THE END.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I HESI-TATE,
I'LL KEEP WISHING.

...THERE IS NO-THING MORE TO TALK ABOUT.
ALL THAT IS LEFT IS TO FIGHT.
...LET'S HAVE A GOOD FIGHT.

BRO-
THER.


Bip
?!



...
TCH!!

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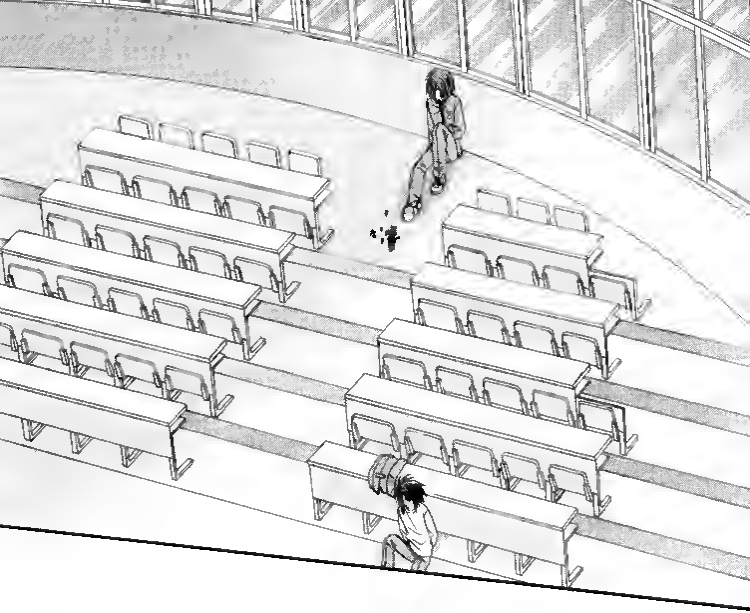
WHY IS HE STILL WISHING FOR THE BLESS-ING...!
WHY ...
EVEN THOUGH HE KNOWS IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN,
WHY, EYES ---...
...DO FRIENDS ---...

MEAN THAT MUCH TO YOU?

BECAUSE THEY ARE SO IMPORTANT TO HIM,
EVEN IF HE KNOWS THE FRIENDSHIP CAN BREAK
BY BEING DISPOSED OF BY SOMEONE,
HE WANTS TO KEEP PROTECTING THEM UNTIL THAT TIME.
THAT'S WHY, UNTIL THEN, SECOND BY SECOND,
FOR THE SAKE OF HIS FRIENDS,
HE ISN'T BEING CRUSHED BY DESPAIR.
AND HE CAN KEEP WISHING.

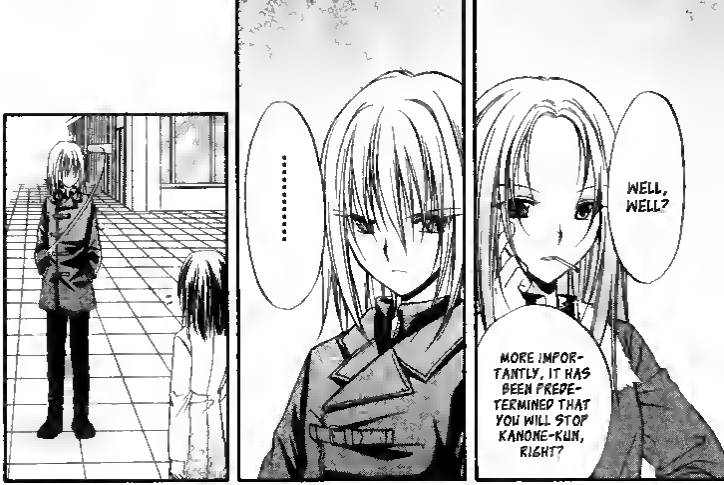
...YOU CARE FOR YOUR FRIENDS TOO, RIGHT?
IT'S JUST ---
IF THEY ARE GONNA BREAK BECAUSE OF SOMEONE ELSE,
YOU THOUGHT IT'D BETTER IF YOU DO IT YOURSELF IN A BEAUTIFUL WAY.
YOU'RE NOT REALLY MISTAKEN...
YOUR CHOICE IS REALLY BRAVE.
ON THE OTHER HAND, RUTHERFORD IS REGRETFULLY UGLY
... ALTHOUGH I
YOUR SIDE CAN BE COMPARED TO THAT OF THE SAMURAI, RIGHT?

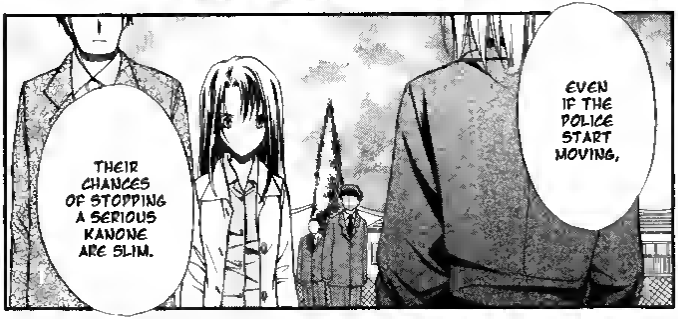
GAVE UP MANY TIMES WHEN IT WAS ABOUT ME,
I NEVER GAVE UP ON ANYONE'S ELSE'S HAPPINESS,
EVEN IF I KNEW IT COULDN'T BECOME MINE...
THE HAPPINESS OF AN IMPORTANT PERSON,
I CAN KEEP WISHING FOR IT REGRETFULLY.

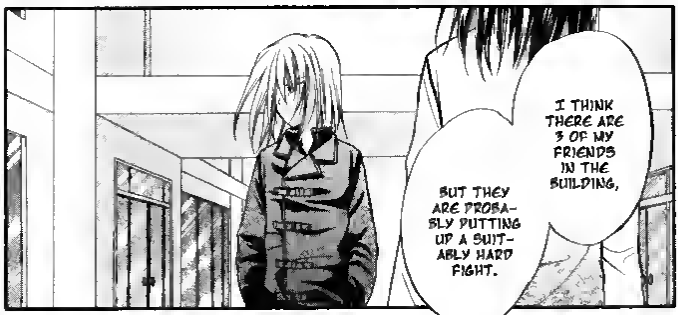


KA-
NONE HAS MET...
WITH THAT "HIZUMI" THAT KIYOTAKA SHOULD HAVE HIDDEN.

MEANING KIYOTAKA WROTE A SCENARIO WHERE THEY MEET.
...IS THAT WHAT IT MEANS—?!


WELL, WELL?
MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT HAS BEEN PREDETERMINED THAT YOU WILL STOP KANONE-KUN, RIGHT?
.....


EVEN IF THE POLICE START MOVING,
THEIR CHANCES OF STOPPING A SERIOUS KANONE ARE SLIM.


I THINK THERE ARE 3 OF MY FRIENDS IN THE BUILDING,
BUT THEY ARE PROBABLY PUTTING UP A SUITABLY HARD FIGHT.

THERE IS ONLY ONE MAN WHO CAN STOP KANONE NOW.
...AYUMU.
YOU MEAN NARUMI KIYOTAKA'S LITTLE BROTHER?
YES
AND THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN GIVE THE WEAK AYUMU-KUN
THE DECISION AND MOTIVATION TO FIGHT AGAINST THE UNRIVALLED KANONE-KUN IS YOU,
NARUMI MADOKA.

IT SEEMS LIKE NARUMI KIYOTAKA HAS ARRANGED YOU FOR THIS PURPOSE---
.....
NARUMI MADOKA.
...WHAT WILL YOU DO?

WHAT WILL I DO, YOU ASK?
YOU'RE SAYING I SHOULD ENTER THE BUILDING, MEET WITH AYUMU AND TELL HIM, "PLEASE FIGHT"?
YES...
IT'S NOT THAT FAR FROM THE BEST MOVE NOW, NO MATTER WHAT KIYOTAKA HAS PLANNED.
.....
DO I HAVE SO MUCH INFLUENCE ON AYUMU?
.....
HEY,
AYUMU-KUN

...I GUESS IT DOESN'T MATTER...
ANYWAY, I PLANNED ON GOING IN FROM THE START.
?
ISN'T IT FINE IF I'M NOT WITH THE POLICE?
I'LL WRITE MY LETTER OF RESIGNATION LATER
I DON'T CARE ABOUT DISCIPLINARY DISMISSALS EITHER
BUT...
BUT, ASSISTANT INSPECTOR,
THERE WAS AN ORDER FOR THE POLICE NOT TO DO ANYTHING--
!?

AYUMU CURRENTLY HAS TOO MANY DEBTS.
I'LL SAVE HIM HERE!
AND MAKE HIM RETURN THEM.
NO MATTER WHAT THE PLAN IS, IF THAT'S WHAT KIYOTAKA-SAN WANTS, THEN IT'S ALRIGHT.
I'M SURE YOU MOVED WHILE THINKING ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS, RUTH-KUN.
BUT THERE WILL BE NO DISORDER IN KIYOTAKA'S SCENARIO.
AND THE CONCLUSION IS PRETTY AWFUL.

CAN YOU KEEP WISHING DESPITE THAT?
...IN FRONT OF OUR FATE,
WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

CHAPTER 40:
THE CHOICE
OF LIFE

. YOU'RE PROBABLY TIRED ALREADY
PUT AN END TO YOUR FESTIVAL?
WHY WON'T YOU JUST
...WHAT WILL I DO AFTER ENDING IT?
SHALL I COMMIT SUICIDE?

IN ORDER FOR ME TO ESCAPE THE PAIN OF DESPAIR,
I WAS JUST LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO DIE...
IT'S SIMPLE TO JUST COMMIT SUICIDE ON MY OWN...
...BUT AT LEAST,
...I SEE.
THIS MIGHT BE THE ONLY WAY...
I WAS AIMING FOR A DEATH WITH MEANING.

THAT'S WHY I THOUGHT TO EXTERMINATE ALL OF THE DETESTABLE BLADE CHILDREN.
AND GET RID OF MYSELF WHO WAS BURDENED WITH THAT SIN.
I THOUGHT THAT WAS THE MEANING LEFT FOR ME
BUT AT THIS RATE, EVEN IF I KILL MY FRIENDS . .
EVEN IF I KILL KIDS, I'LL JUST FALL TO MADNESS.
AND SO I WILL LOSE MY REASON TO GET RID OF MYSELF
AND WILL END AS A DEVIL THAT KILLS PEOPLE WITH NO DISTINCTION.
I'LL END UP EXPOSING THE FORM I WANT TO EXPOSE THE LEAST.
ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN,
THIS IS THE WAY THINGS ARE NOW...

THIS IS REALLY THE END.
NOW YOU'RE COMPLAIN-ING?
KILLING FRIENDS IS JUST WHAT YOU PREDICTED.
YOU WON'T GO MAD WITH JUST THAT
IT'S DIFFERENT FROM THE PREDICTIONS...
Eyes is alive.
...He's alive, although I was supposed to kill him.

BUT KILLING A LITTLE BRO-THE...
...AS THINGS ARE, I'LL NEED TO KILL EVES AGAIN.
--KILLING A GOOD FRIEND FOR A SECOND TIME, TO BE SANE ENOUGH TO DO THAT,
I'M NOT THAT STRONG ...
EVEN IF I HAVE ENOUGH SANITY,
I DON'T WANT TO BE THAT TERRIBLE A HUMAN.

He has lost his faith...
While thinking about losing his comrades and good friends...
...WITH THE FACT THAT I WAS UNABLE TO KILL EVES THE FIRST TIME...
I HAVE BECOME CORNERED
In order to stop my own madness,
I probably have to commit suicide with no real hope or meaning.
At this rate, he really would be able to do it...
...But aniki, only that—
Had him changed so much...?

What should I do . ?
Is the only way for me to die alone . . ?
And the other ways—
—No way, Kiyotaka.
So that's what it was about?!
NARUMI MADOKA WENT IN, BUT...

IS IT OKAY FOR YOU TO STAY HERE, RUTH-KUN?
.....
IF I MEET WITH KANONE NOW.
WE'LL TRY TO KILL EACH OTHER FOR SURE.
IF I DIE, KANONE WILL PROBABLY BECOME A MAD SERIAL KILLER
IF KANONE DIES,
I'LL JUST GO MAD..
I APPROVE OF THAT PREDIC-TION
BUT...

ANYWAY, WITNIN KIYOTAKA'S SCENARIO,
KA-NONE-KUN DIES.
IF THERE IS A MEANING IN IT, HE MIGHT COMMIT SUICIDE
HE WON'T COMMIT SUICIDE FOR NOTHING
HE WON'T COMMIT SUICIDE
...NO,

FOR AYUMU-KUN TO BE STRON-GER,
SO HE CAN GROW TO A LEVEL WHERE HE CAN FIGHT WITH "HIZUMI"
KIYO-TAKA !!
SO THAT'S IT...!!

AYUMU-KUN...
HAVE YOU EVER KILLED SOMEONE?
.....
.. IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT,
THERE IS NO WAY THAT A NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COULD HAVE SUCH AN EXPERIENCE
THAT'S RIGHT
SO THAT KIYOTAKA PLAYED ME...
SO YOU'D BE ABLE TO FIGHT WITH "HIZUMI" ..

I UNDERSTAND KIYOTAKA'S PLAN.
.....
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
THAT IS KIYOTAKA'S SCENARIO.
TO LET YOU KILL ME,

AYUMU-KUN IS A GOOD PERSON,
AND A NICE ONE...
SO HE'S GREATLY LACKING IN FIGHTING SPIRIT.
IF IT'S RUNNING FROM A BATTLE,
OR EVEN WHEN FIGHTING, ATTACKING WITHOUT CRUSHING THE ENEMY,
HE'S A KID WHO ALLOWS OPTIMISM
BUT IN THE UPCOMING FIGHT WITH "HIZUMI", THAT WON'T BE A GOOD THING.

FOR THIS WORLD, AYUMU-KUN HAVE TO KILL "NIZUMI".
NO MATTER HOW MUCH HE PLEADS FOR HIS LIFE.
AND IN ORDER FOR HIM TO GET THAT STRENGTH,
HE HAS TO KILL SOME-ONE.
AYUMU-KUN HAS TO HAVE THE STRENGTH TO KILL AN OPPONENT WHO WON'T RESIST,
SO HE WON'T BE AFRAID OR LINGER FOR A SECOND IN THE DECISIVE MATCH AGAINST "NIZUMI"
THAT IS KIYOTAKA'S SCENARIO.
HUMANS WHO CAN KILL PEOPLE ARE
SAD, BUT STRONG --...
YOU COULD SAY THEY HAVE A STRENGTH THAT THEY CAN RECOVER FROM.

I PITY HIM.
BUT WE HAVE TO GIVE THAT TO AYUMU-KUN.
.....
AFTER ALL, THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN KILL "HIZUMI" IS AYUMU-KUN.....
...THAT MEANS KANONE IS
A STEPPING STONE IN ORDER TO KILL "HIZUMI"?
...WHAT IS IT THIS LATE ...?
KIYOTAKA DOESN'T SEE ANYONE,
NOT EVEN HIM, AS MORE THAN TOOLS FOR AYUMU-KUN TO GROW.
--- WHA

WHAT COULD I DO IN THE STATE OF CAPTIVITY THAT I'M IN NOW?
...THERE IS NO WAY I CAN KILL YOU...
FIRST ...
EVEN IF I'M FREE, I'M NOT A MATCH FOR YOU.
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT...
IF YOU'RE FREE, I'LL LET YOU KILL ME OBEDIENTLY.
NOW THAT I'M CORNERED,
BUT THERE IS NO OTHER WAY TO SAVE ME NOW...
...THIS IS IRONIC,

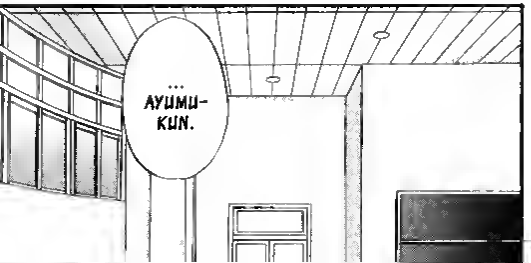
IF I'M NOT TO FALL TO MAD-NESS,
AND STILL BE ABLE TO DIE A MEANINGFUL DEATH,
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY.
SO THERE'S NO LEEWAY TO CHOOSE HERE
THE STAGE IS ALREADY WON-DERFULLY SET...
I UNDER-STAND YOUR REASON!
BUT EVEN IF I KILL YOU, WHAT MEANING DOES IT HAVE?
AND EVEN IF YOU'RE IN THAT MOOD,
YOU THINK I'LL JUST SAY "YES, THAT'S RIGHT" AND KILL YOU?!
IT'S FINE IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE MEANING.
EVEN IF YOU DON'T WANT TO, YOU'LL KNOW IT EVENTU-ALLY.

IT'S JUST ...
WHAT IS CERTAIN NOW IS...
THERE IS A LIMIT TO HOW LONG YOU'LL LET ME LIVE UNTIL I GO MAD AND RANDOMLY KILL SOME PEOPLE.
IT'S NOT SOMETHING TO BE ILL-MINDED ABOUT.
KIYO-TAKA HAS ARRANGED IT ALL SO THAT THIS IS THE ONLY WAY.
SO IN ORDER FOR YOU TO PROTECT EVERYONE FROM MY MADNESS,
WON'T YOU CHOOSE TO DIRTY YOUR HANDS?
.....
...WHAT A COMICAL STORY.
は!

ALTHOUGH I BETRAYED ALL,
LOST ALL,
AND GOT HERE WITH MY INTENTIONS...
IN THE END, I WAS JUST A DOLL
MANIPULATED BY KIYOTAKA'S THINKING...!!
.....

Why---...
Aniki... Why do you wish for such a cruel end?

IF WE FAIL THAT,
GOT THE PLAN?
WE'LL LURE KANONE-KUN OUT OF THE MUSIC ROOM
AND GET HIM INTO THE TRAP ZONE.
THERE IS NO "AFTER", OKAY?


... AYUMU-KUN.

I DON'T NEED SYMPA-THY.
I HAVEN'T YET ADMITTED DEFEAT...
I BE-TRAYED ALL AND LOST ALL, AND I GOT THIS FAR—
SO I CAN'T SURRENDER SO EASILY...
AS IF I CAN ...
EVEN IF KIYO-TAKA IS A GOD ...
IT'S ONLY MY DISPOSITION THAT HAS SWELLED UP...
HE'LL DISAPPEAR WHEN I HAVE ONLY MADNESS

...I'VE ALREADY SAID IT, AYUMU-KUN...
IF YOU'RE FREE, I'LL OBEDIENTLY LET YOU KILL ME.
...WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THAT...?!
THAT'S MY LAST DISPOSI-TION.
I CAN CONTINUE THE CAR-NIVAL
AND USE ALL OF MY POWERS TO KILL THE BLADE CHILDREN.
OF COURSE, IN THAT CASE I WON'T LET YOU FREE, AS YOU'RE AN IMPORTANT HOSTAGE
NEITHER WILL I ALLOW YOU TO BE SAVED...

YOU'LL BE LIKE THAT UNTIL THE CARNIVAL ENDS,
SO I CAN'T KILL YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE INVOLVED
.....
...WHEN THE CARNIVAL ENDS...
I WON'T BE SANE ANY MORE.
AFTER THAT, EVEN IF YOU'RE FREED, I WON'T LET YOU KILL ME OBEDIENTLY.
...KIYO-TAKA.

IT REALLY WILL BE A MIRACLE.
IF YOU WANT TO KILL ME, FREE AYUMU-KUN RIGHT AWAY...!
I'LL FIGHT SERI-OUSLY.
I'LL BEAT ANYONE WHO COMES.
EVEN IF, DESPITE THAT, SOME-ONE IS ABLE TO RELEASE AYUMU-KUN...

ゴト
THAT WILL MEAN THIS IS REALLY JUST FOR SOMEONE ELSE...
...BUT IF SUCH A MIRACLE IS REALLY TO HAPPEN,
WHEN THE MIRACLE HAPPENS, TAKE THIS GUN AND POINT IT AT HIM.
I'LL LET YOU KILL ME OBE-DIENTLY.

YOU'RE JUST AFRAID OF REALITY AND ARE RUNNING AWAY
DON'T RELY ON OTHER PEOPLE IN THE END!
WHAT MIRACLE !
CHOOSE WHAT IS RIGHT FOR YOURSELF!!
...FOR MYSELF ...?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD BELIEVE IN ANYMORE,
NOR WHAT I SHOULD WISH FOR.
THERE IS NOTHING LEFT FOR ME EXCEPT AN UNREASONABLE DISPOSITION.
WHAT CAN BE DECIDED LIKE THAT?

...IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID AT THE BEGIN-NING...
.....
I'M ALREADY TIRED.
IT'D BE GOOD
IF MY MANNER (OF DEATH IS DECIDED BY FATE AND SUCH.

ゴゴゴ

スタ!

--IT'S THE END OF THE GAMES.
I'LL GO FULL THROT-TLE
WITH JUST MOVING MY BODY.
IF YOU CAN STOP ME, JUST GO AHEAD AND TRY.
THIS IS BAD.
HE CAN --

DO IT!!
!!
Hey

It hasn't even been 30 seconds ...
What happened ?!
He beat the 3 of them?!
And he isn't hurt at all?!
Is that his real power?!
ガチャ

IF YOU GET SERIOUS,
WE'RE REALLY NO MATCH FOR YOU.
BUT IT WAS AT LEAST DONE WELL.
EVEN IF THEY'RE LEFT ALONE, THEY'LL LOSE SO MUCH BLOOD THAT THEY'LL DIE
KOUSUKE-KUN AND RYOUKO-CHAN ARE STILL BOTH ALIVE, RIGHT?
BUT... YOU STILL HAVE A LOT TO WORK ON.

ALSO,

!!
I'LL JUST PUT AN END TO IT
AND IT'LL ALL BE OVER.
YOU,
AND PROBA-BLY
I MYSELF TOO.
KUH...
SO THIS IS HOW FAR I GO!!

ヒ
WHAT ?!

SUPER
LiGHT-
NiNG
KiiiCK
!!

IT'S NARUMI MADOKA ---?!

AREN'T YOU JUST TOO MUCH OF A TEASE?
. KA-NONE-KUN, RIGHT ...?

AYUMU'S POWERS AREN'T FOR LEASE,
BECAUSE BIG SISTER WILL GIVE YOU ONE HELL OF A PUNISH-MENT.

螺旋の鼓動が、運命の刻が迫るのを告げる…。

歩に秘められた、兄・清隆を越える可能性――…。

戦場と化す月臣学園…。悪夢を希望へと変える光は、

この悲劇の舞台に射すのか――!?

To be continued. Please wait!

Spiral work diary

12th Imazato-sensei

13th: Wataya Suemaru, Nohara Mizue

9th Narumi Madoka, Shiranagatani Sayoka

It's obvious for Madoka but for Sayo-chan to get ta this rank

8th: Narumi Kiyotaka

It's again amazing that he got to 8th place although he didn't appear

He was in it too?!

11th: Sun-sensei

For the third year anniversary of Spiral's serialization, this magazine has held a popularity poll. As I couldn't draw the characters for this occasion because of time issues, I borrowed this place to draw them.

6th: Asadzuki Kousuke

Although I hear a lot of voices that say "love" he didn't get to an higher rank.

7th: Takamachi Ryouko

Maybe I want to give her more activity in this volume?

4th: Yuizoki Hiyono

Although I thought she should get the 1st place myself

3rd: Norumi Ayumu

I was a little worried about the protoganist's rank (sorry) so I was relieved to see he got the 3rd place

5th: Kanone Hilbert

How about this feeling that is split between "love" and "hate"? I guess that the 5th place is an obvious.

2nd: Tokeuchi Rio

I can say that it was just as I predicted or anything else It's because her not being a simple loli girl is being displayed well enough

1st: Eyes Rutherford

This took me by surprise Although it was merely his turn in the times he appeared... It might be that his beauty is strong (laugh)

原作者あとがき

はい、読者の皆様、城平京です。第8巻です。二桁までもう少しです。

この巻では主人公がまったく活躍していませんが、次巻では主人公らしくなんかやらかしてくれると思います。いえ、やらないことには論理が暴力に勝たずに終わっちゃうんですけどね。ああ、本当にどうやって勝たせたものか……。

第8巻ともなるとここに書くことにも困ってきまして、今回は私の好きな作家のご紹介でページを埋めることにします。

紹介するのはアメリカの絵本作家、エドワード・ゴーリーです。海外では以前から評価が高く、特にカルト的な人気もある方なのですが、日本では最近作品が河出書房新社から立て続けに翻訳され、評価が高まってきている作家です。

少し大きな書店の絵本コーナーに行けば平積みにされ、「大人向け」の絵本という紹介がされているかもしれません。確かに小学生くらいで手に取ると、悪夢を見るかも深い傷を負いそうな作品もあったりします（「不幸な子供」は特に）。

私がこの作家を知ったのはハヤカワミステリマガジンに載っていた「死んだ子供達のABC」（このタイトルだけで下手に手を出すと痛い目を見るのがまるわかりですという作品を八年くらい前に読んだ時です。これには強烈な衝撃を受けました。世の中にはとんでもないセンスを持った人がいるもんだ、としばし呆然としたものです（ちなみにこの作品は現在『ギャシュリークラムのちびっ子たち』という題名で本になっています）。

私が読んだ当時は作品がほとんど紹介されておらず、それきり他のゴーリー作品に出会うこともなかったのですが、二年ほど前に絵本コーナーで「死んだ子供達のABC」の絵が表紙になっている本を見かけ、「ああ、こんなやばいものが子ども向けの絵本コーナーに堂々と置かれているとは！」とやはり衝撃を受けたものです。

他にも「うろんな客」、「華々しき鼻血」など一度読んだら忘れられない内容の作品があります。たまにはブラックなものを味わいたい、という腹の据わった方は絵本コーナーに行って手にとってみてください。ただし悪夢を見ても責任は持ちません。

ちなみに私はゴーリーを読んだ後は、佐野洋子先生の「100万回生きたねこ」を読んで心のバランスを取ることにしています。

最後にお詫びを。基本的にコミックスの発売に合わせて書き下ろしてまいりましたガンガンNET掲載の「スパイラル」の外伝小説ですが（http://ganganonline.com/spiral/）、今回はお休みです。ほんと、申し訳ありません。

時間がないとか、肝心のミステリ脳が死んだままとか事情は多々あるので方が、この外伝シリーズもそろそろ完結のためにまとまった準備期間が欲しいなーという感じなのです。

そういうわけでなるべく早いうちに復活させようとは思いますが、今回はすいません。

では第9巻でお会いできることを祈りつつ。

城平京

ガンガンコミックス

スパイラル～推理の絆～

スパイラル推理の絆 8

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〒160-8307　東京都新宿区西新宿4-15-7　後楽園新宿ビル3階
〈内容についてのお問い合わせ〉　TEL 03(5352)6430
〈販売・営業に関するお問い合わせ〉　TEL 03(5352)6441
FAX 03(5352)6464

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